

Santa Clara Libertarian

Volume 31, Issue 9, September 2003

News Of Local Libertarians' Struggle For Freedom



ON NOV. 13 REDEVELOPMENT REFORM LEADER WALLACE-ROWE WILL TELL HOW SHE WON IN S.J.

Will Be 1st Guest Speaker Of Joel Mannion's New "Inspiring Freedom Forum" Series

Libertarian Party member Joel Mannion is planning a series of what Joel has dubbed his "Inspiring Freedom Forum" Speakers Meetings. The inaugural meeting will be November 13 at Cocos in Sunnyvale. For it, he has attracted a noted leader in the fight to prevent Ron Gonzales and the City of San Jose Redevelopment Agency from forcing owners off their property to transfer it to new owners for a city-desired development project, to tell us about this threat to the property rights of all of us.

Speaking will be Loraine Wallace Rowe, the chairperson of CRR - the "Coalition for Redevelopment Reform". She will be speaking on "Redevelopment's power to take private property by eminent domain."

She will describe how these violations of people's property rights allow the taking of real estate from private owners and transferring its title to politically connected private developers. Owners cannot refuse to sell. They have no recourse except to argue in court over the price. Unlike takings for "public purposes" (like roads, libraries, schools) as provided for in the 5th Amendment of the Constitution, even residential properties can be taken and rebuilt with different private, for profit, housing or other uses through this process.

She will tell how the legal process starts with the determination that an area of a city is "blighted". The definition of "blight" is completely subjective. After getting this designation, property values become depressed as owners cannot sell without disclosure and they are not motivated to improve the property knowing that their continued ownership is doubtful. Under the "Strong Neighborhoods Initiative", more than 1/3 of the City of San Jose has been designated as blighted. Property in all cities in California, and the rest of the United States, which have Redevelopment Areas can be subject to this draconian - and likely unconstitutional - law.

Loraine Wallace Rowe is one of the founding members of CRR, a grassroots group formed to curb redevelopment abuses and the taking of private property for private purposes. The group is an outshoot of a group formed to fight the proposed taking of

the "40 Sites - Greater Downtown Housing" wherein the San Jose Redevelopment Agency sought to take approximately 150 properties in 40 sites and transfer title of all properties in each site to a private developer to build high cost, high density, high priced housing to provide a critical mass of shoppers for the proposed Palladium Project. The property successfully fought that battle, but in the process learned that it was just a small part of a much larger scheme.

The CRR group is composed of approximately 100 members who work for redevelopment reform through various avenues.

[Editor's note: Joel Mannion has gone to some trouble to arrange this affair and to engage an outstanding guest speaker for us. Let's show him and the guest speaker the respect they deserve by attending in numbers and providing some thoughtful post-talk questions, comments, and points of discussion. Go to meeting room in back of Cocos at Oakmead Parkway and Lawrence Expressway, Sunnyvale. As usual, dinner starting at 7 pm, meeting at 8 pm.



Joel Mannion



Loraine Wallace-Rowe

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Libertarian Party of
Santa Clara County
P.O. Box 60171
Sunnyvale, CA
94088-0171
Tel: (408) 243-2711
www.sc.ca.lp.org

POLL SAYS 80% WILL DISPLAY LP VEHICLE SIGNS

But Surprisingly Few Poll Takers In September Puts A Question On Predictability

by Marv Rudin, Publicity Chair

Surprisingly, just two more newsletter readers took the vehicle signs poll, bringing the readers total to six, although the August issue was received by 340 members in September. In addition, one more eboard reader took the poll. The bottom line is that 60 out of 75 who participated are willing to display some form of LP sign, which is very encouraging for getting the signs on continuous display in SC County starting before the end of this year (first ones will probably be ready by the end of November).

VEHICLE SIGNS LIBERTARIAN USER POLL	SCL		LPSCC	total
	Newsltr	Excom	eBoard	
Question: Do you display an LP vehicle sign?				
1: Yes - I have a sign displayed on my vehicle	3	4	9	16
2: No - Don't want to disclose I'm pro LP		2	2	4
3: No - But would if sign's free		0	1	1
4: No - But would if on my license plate holder	1	1	9	11
5: No - But would if I had a Libertarian sign		1	4	5
6: No - But would if I could write the message it holds	1	1	2	4
7: No - Fear can't get off adhesive residue on removal	1	1	3	5
8: No - Vehicle signs aren't stylish		3	7	10
9: No - Would if sign is removable for some situations		0	18	18
10: No - I don't own a car		1		1
total	6	14	55	75
	Total - sticker type			31 41%
	Total - removable only			18 24%
	Total - license plate only			11 15%
	Total - no sign of any kind			15 20%
	Total - sign of some kind			60 80%

AARON STARR LEADS DOOR-TO-DOOR CAMPAIGN TO CONVERT CAMPBELL REG-LIBERTARIANS

Reported by Scott Lieberman and Marv Rudin



Aaron Starr

Back in July, LPC Chair Aaron Starr took an intrepid group of LP activists to the desert wasteland of Imperial County, about 60 miles East of San Diego. In the course of one weekend, they managed to triple the number of LP members in Imperial County (starting with 7) by persuading about half of the list of registered Libertarians they visited to become dues paying members. Based on that success, On Sunday, Sept. 21, the day after the LPC Excom meeting in San Jose at the DoubleTree Hotel on Saturday Sept. 20th, Aaron led a group composed of Scott Lieberman, Mark Hinkle, M. Carling, and Reid and Margarite Judd to call on a list of registered Libertarians in Campbell in hopes of demonstrating this way to increase our paid members. Campbell was selected because it has the densest population of Libertarian registrants in the county.

In support and appreciation of this effort, the LPSCC Excom voted at it's September meeting to pay up to \$150 for drinks and pizza for all. As it turned out, this amounted to \$37.50, and 7.5 volunteer hours per new member - relatively costly because unfortunately the percentage of converts was not even close to the 50% of registered Libertarians contacted, as experienced in Imperial County. For one thing, the number of people who answered the door was far lower. This left Aaron and coterie to ponder whether it's because Libertarians in a more dense population setting like Campbell are not as happy to see unannounced visitors at their doors, or if it's because of some difference in the political climate in September or in Santa Clara (versus Imperial County), or all of the above. ■

TOO LATE FOR YOUR CANDIDATE PETITION FORMS?

NOTE:

Some are due Nov. 5th, others by Nov. 20th. Allowing for mail time, please sign & mail at least 1 day early.

by Marv Rudin, Newsletter Chair

It's very late in the game, but you may still have time to use your computer to download petitions for each of the Libertarian candidates in your district (can be up to 3). Some are due in on Nov. 5th and some on Nov. 20th. They must first get to the party by U.S. mail for candidates to consolidate theirs into one batch. This means 1 or 2 days may be needed before the Nov. 5th and Nov. 20th deadlines (different for different offices). So to meet the Nov. 5th deadline, when you read this please get on it and click on the links in the next paragraph immediately.

By creating a website and one sided petitions that are easy for you to use, Campaign Chair Dennis Umphress has gone to a lot of trouble. And your party has put up a lot of money, to enable you to download the petitions you need to sign and save the candidates even more money, and a lot of energy and time. The procedure is spelled out in detail by Dennis' article on page 5 of the August SCL newsletter ([Click on http://www.lpty.org/scnews/2003aug/Vol%2031%20Issue%208.pdf](http://www.lpty.org/scnews/2003aug/Vol%2031%20Issue%208.pdf)). Or click on <http://www.sc.ca.lp.org/petitions/> and go directly to Dennis' petitions web page with full information and forms.

Please don't let our candidates down. It's easy to download, fill in, sign and mail the petition forms to the party's P.O. Box. It'll take you about 15 minutes for each candidate - 45 minutes if you have candidates running in all 3 of your districts (it'll probably be less), and Dennis says it'll save about \$6.60 to \$10.31 per petition. Thanks for helping your candidates! ■

UPCOMING POLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES IN 2003

Reported by Dennis Umphress, Campaign Chair

In addition to federal and state offices, these are local offices and districts that may be in the March 2, 2004 Presidential Primary Election:

Santa Clara County Offices

City of San Jose

Santa Clara County Open Space Authority

Santa Clara Valley Water District

The City of San Jose may submit something for the ballot. Their deadlines are probably, but not yet confirmed to be: Last day for jurisdictions to submit resolution for a measure and tax rate statement, if applicable, 12/03/03

Last day to submit arguments for and against a measure 12/05/03. No rebuttal arguments are allowed.

Registered voters will vote on the following offices:

Council Member - District 2- Incumbent: Forrest Williams

Council Member - District 4- Incumbent: Chuck Reed

Council Member - District 6- Incumbent: Ken Yeager

Council Member - District 8- Incumbent: David Cortese

Council Member - District 10- No Incumbent, Pat Dando is term limited out.

The nomination period begins Monday, November 10, 2003 and ends Friday,

December 5, 2003 at 12:00 Noon. If an incumbent who is eligible to run does not file, the deadline for that particular office will be extended to Wednesday, December 10, 2003 at 12:00 Noon.

The Santa Clara County deadlines are:

Last day for jurisdictions to submit resolution for a measure and tax rate statement, if applicable, 12/05/03

Last day to submit arguments for and against a measure 12/10/03

Last day to submit impartial analysis and rebuttals to arguments in favor and against a measure, 12/17/03 ■



Dennis Umphress
Campaign Chair
Worked hard on
mail-in petitions
system to ease
candidates' load

REGULAR LP TV SHOWS IN SILICON VALLEY!

Selzer Arranging To Show "Libertarian Alternative" On Local Cable Access Channels For \$50/mo

Reported by Marv Rudin, Editor & Publicity Chair



Mark Selzer

If you have cable access where you live, please be on the lookout for the "Libertarian Alternative" and let me know if you see it and what you think of the show.

At its September 6th meeting the LPSCC ExCom, in response to a motion by Mark Hinkle, passed a resolution endorsing the purchase of Mark Selzer's Libertarian Alternative cable show tapes, subject to a plan to make it all work to the satisfaction of the LPSCC. Based on it, Hinkle negotiated with Selzer, and reported:

"Here's what I've worked out with Mark Selzer: He will contact cable access shows in Santa Clara County (starting with the largest city: San Jose) to see if he can work out the details of getting his shows run on their cable access channel. Failing that, he will go with the city of Santa Clara next. If someone has a better city, please let us know. Essentially, Mark Selzer will handle everything. Unless we want to collect the tapes from the local cable access channels (for use in other areas within Santa Clara County), they will eventually be sent back to Mark Selzer, who'll recycle them with new shows. He's agreeable either way. And we can change how that's handled in the future, should we wish to do so. He will send the cable access channel the tapes in the format they require at a rate of 2 a month for a monthly fee of \$50."

The Libertarian Alternative is regularly produced and shown where Mark Selzer lives in West Hollywood. It features Selzer and co-host Dusti Taylor and guests discussing various freedom issues. Our readers who have computer systems with web video capability can see samples by clicking on the following link: <http://home.jps.net/~liberty64>. The Libertarian Alternative website may be seen by clicking on: <http://www.flashhome.com/libalt>. To purchase Libertarian Videos or to donate click on: <http://libalt.gemm.com>

Mark Selzer says "Public access is the basic grass roots minimum we should be doing. Call me at 323-633-6275 to get the LP on TV in your area." On his website, he touts the benefit of his show with following testimonial from the chair of the Maricopa County Libertarian Party in Arizona: "Mark, we are broadcasting a mix of your shows and our shows here in Phoenix. The data shows us getting about 10,000 viewers per week. Our county voter registrations are growing at +10% annually in part due to this show. This growth rate is greater than any other political party or Libertarian county affiliate in Arizona. We are the only county party in Arizona with a public access show. Unfortunately, the other county chairs do not see it as a priority." [Editor's note: This is faster than any LP regions in California too!]

Just before the end of September Selzer was able to place his tapes on San Jose's Comcast cable TV network on Channel 15 on October 4 (Friday) at 5:30 PM and October 5th (Saturday) at 9:30 PM. Did any of you readers happen to see one of them? If you did, what did you think of it?

Hinkle said: "I think the first shows will feature LP candidate for governor Ned Roscoe, who recently appeared on the show. Each month Mark will send two additional shows to be aired. For a schedule of the shows and what cities they are aired at, check out: <http://www.flashhome.com/libalt>. Thanks to Mark Selzer for his dedication in making this happen. He had to wade through a lot of bureaucracy to get these shows on the air in San Jose."

RADIO - BAY AREA LP LOSES WILSON, GAINS ELDER

Reported By Scott Lieberman

The San Francisco Bay area just lost another libertarian radio talk show host. LP of Maryland member Brian Wilson no longer does lost the 7pm to 9pm weekday time slot on KSFO in San Francisco. However, we do have a consolation prize.

KSFO (560 kHz AM) Larry Elder (on tape delay) Sat 10pm- Sun 1am Sun 10pm- Mon 1am



Larry Elder

NEWS BRIEFS

■ **DA'S POLITICAL ATTACKS:** Libertarian Tom Spielbauer, suspended deputy public defender and candidate for judge in the last two elections, who has been under political harassment by the District Attorney Kennedy's office, charged with violation of a technical court procedure has a web site with all pertinent information on his case by clicking on <http://www.spielbauer.com/Press%20Page.htm> . He's also asking for help to form a campaign to recall Kennedy, and has been collecting cases like his own of unfair practices and political harassment of others by the Kennedy office and henchpersons. ■

■ **DOMAINS COST CONTROVERSY:** Treasurer Jon Hugdahl, in an attempt to conserve party funds, first advocated a less costly domain name approach than the previous "VoteNoOnX.org" where "X" was any letter from A to U that might be needed to counter tax measures put on the ballot by various government entities — local school, water, and other districts, cities, school boards, and the county. He proposed one generic website name that would allow different pages addressed by a slash followed by "Measure X". Excom members voted this down, persuaded that an up front domain name such as VoteNoOnX.org looked more impressive. Additionally, Chair Ray Strong voted with his purse, saying "Please renew as many as possible of the names we had. Please let me know the total cost of these renewals. I will contribute this amount to the LPSCC. But The Treasurer, stuck to his penchant for saving money by renewing only the two that are active - A and D, and bought all the others request at about a third the cost by substituting the recently internet-instituted ".us" rather than ".org" as the domains type indicator, saying "I set up 21 new names of the pattern votenoon{a-u}.US using godaddy.com as domain company. I see no reason to prefer .org over .us, especially when .org has cost us 3 times as much. Instead of \$315 the cost is \$103.95 for one year." There were no direct complaints (or thanks!) versus this move. There was even an oblique acceptance. Trying to further save money, Campaign Chair Dennis Umphress announced an offer to let other LP regions use our unused LPSCC-owned domains - .us or .org - for \$10 per election cycle. ■

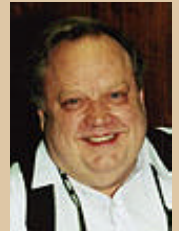
■ **CARROLL & ALLISON CAPITALIZE ON SJSU OPPORTUNITY:** Learning from Mark Hinkle of a lecture sponsored by the San Jose State Department of Economics entitled "The Role of Freedom in Economic Well-Being: A Look at the Evidence" by Walter Block, as part of the SJSU "Provocative Lecture Series", Publicity Chair Rudin asked for volunteers to pass out LIFE cards to the audience, saying "Your Publicity Chair would like to hear from a volunteer to attend this event and hand out LIFE cards to the small L libertarian leaning types likely to attend. Who knows - might even engender the birth of a new SJS campus Libertarians club." Two members - Gil Carroll and Ed Allison - stepped forward and came through big time. Carroll reported on their outreach efforts: "I got there about 5 minutes late. The talk was well attended by economics profs and students, about 250 people. The talk was a rehash of his published research with some amusing rhetoric. The audience was receptive. Ed and I met and I gave him half the cards. We passed them out to the people leaving along the two aisles of the auditorium. Almost everyone I gave a card to was a student or of that age. All but one took the cards politely, some with interest. We gave out close to half the 200 cards" Ed said: "I think I may have handed out 40 cards. Maybe a few more. The attendance I would guess was 100 in total." Now "the rest of the story": In the next couple of days after being passed to the students, their cards induced 6 visits to the lpty.org Libertarian promotional web site, and two of the visitors filled out the form requesting to register! This is a strong response compared with typical audiences, demonstrating what is well known - that there is no more favorable audience for Libertarian free market views than economists. The SJSU lecture series of which Block lecture was a component may be of interest for future outreach. The lecture and the series were billed as follows:

"Some countries are dirt poor with large segments of the population living in abject poverty while an elite group lives in luxury. Why do these conditions exist? More importantly, can they be changed? Professor Block is co-author of one of the first global studies to examine the impact of individual freedom on economic well-being. His conclusions about the pivotal role of economic freedom in reducing poverty and fostering income equality may surprise you. These conclusions challenge many prevailing views. Come and hear the evidence, and you be the judge." Walter Block is Harold E. Wirth Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair and Professor of Economics at the College of Business Administration, Loyola University, in New Orleans.

"ABOUT THE DAVID R. SAURMAN PROVOCATIVE LECTURE SERIES: The Department of Economics invites students, faculty, and the general public to consider intellectual arguments on controversial topics. Presenters in the Provocative Lecture Series are noted for their outstanding scholarship and public speaking ability. This lecture series fosters the tradition of higher education to challenge ideas and develop critical thinking in an environment of respect and intellectual discourse. Our goal is for you to develop the critical thinking skills necessary to reach your own informed position on controversial issues. We invite you to attend, to relax, to ponder, and to enjoy the thought process." ■



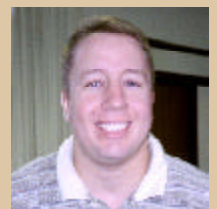
Tom Spielbauer



Jon Hugdahl



Gil Carroll



Ed Allison

COMING EVENTS...


Central Committee Meetings: Next is Annual Meeting to elect 3004 LPSCC officers, LP of California Convention Delegates, and endorse candidates running in March. It's on January 8th at Hong Fu's Chinese Restaurant, 20588 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino

Executive Committee Meetings: Normally 1st Saturday of month, 10:00am
November meeting is Nov. 1st at Rosegarden Library, Naglee & Dana Avenues, San Jose
December meeting is at School of Choice, 3800 Blackford Ave., San Jose, CA 95117-1928

Speakers Meetings: 2nd Thursday in months without central committee meeting
Cocos Restaurant, Sunnyvale (Oakmead Parkway & Lawrence Expressway)
Next speakers meeting: *Thursday 13th Nov.* 7pm for dinner, meeting at 8pm
Invited speaker, President Loraine Wallace-Rowe of Coalition to Reform RDA's. will speak on "Redevelopment's power to take private property by eminent domain."

WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT. EARN \$\$\$ FOR THE LPSCC

Santa Clara County is always looking for poll workers. You get a front row seat at the elections and \$85 to \$115 per day, which you can choose to have paid to the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County. The county also pays for the use of garages and other spaces as polling places.

Call 408-299-POLL or see page 14 of your October 7th Sample Ballot, or click on  to read SC County Registrar of Voters' "Poll Workers Needed" information page on the web.

Santa Clara Libertarian Schedule of Publication to Year End

<u>COVERAGE PERIOD</u>	<u>FINAL EDIT</u>	<u>PUBLICATION</u>
October Issue:	November 23rd,	printed & bulk mailed November 30th
November Issue:	December 13th,	on web site December 20th
December Issue	January 4th	on web site January 6th

(1) For regular notice at time of publication, email "SCL notice" to rudin@lpty.org

(2) All 1998 to 2003 monthly issues are online at <http://www.lpty.org/scnews/>

OPINIONS

Share your thoughts on making our party more successful
and advancing the individual freedom with responsibility movement

Your Opinion Please

Question: Should Our Priority Be
On Politics, More Donors & Dues
Payers, or More Registrations?



Marvin B. Rudin, Editor

I believe the party is presently too small to do all three well, and will be far far more effective in getting media coverage and winning elections only if it first finds cost and time effective ways to identify ten times as many libertarian-thinking folks by increasing LP registrations to ten times what they are now - from 0.72% now to 7.2%. I believe that can't happen under the present style of party operations because the few who are willing to perform leadership roles in the party are more interested in internal and external political activities, not in sorely needed but less glamorous activities like developing efficient methods of impersonal registrant recruiting and ad distribution. Therefore significant growth doesn't occur, members get discouraged, and what may be labelled a "negative bandwagon effect" has been happening.

What do you think? Please answer the above question by taking the poll at <http://www.lpty.org/Polls/SCL-Poll2>, and look for the result in the October Santa Clara Libertarian. ■

Results Of Completed Opinion Poll

announced by the article on Pg.1 of the August 2003 Santa Clara Libertarian

Question: Does the Santa Clara Libertarian do more harm than good?

Taking Poll: 18 of 340 newsletter recipients

Answering:

17: More good than harm.

1: Equal good and harm

0: More harm than good.

Editors comment: Thanks to those of you who voted for the positive response. But such an extremely small percentage of the 340 recipients to respond - just 5% - leaves one to wonder whether the other 95% (a) Didn't read the article on page 1; (b) were too busy to take a one-click poll; (c) didn't have the heart to say how bad the SCL is. Maybe a, b, or c should be the subject of the next poll < grin > . Also, I wonder what kind of harm is perceived by the one reader who selected "equal-harm"? ■

Benefits of Ballot Arguments Against Taxes/Bonds

The LPSCC has written and submitted arguments against local new or increased taxes on most of the ballot measures in the last few years. In many cases ours were the only arguments against these taxes that were submitted.

These arguments help the LP in several ways:

1. Having our name on the ballot gives us free PR.
2. Having our argument included a web address such as VoteNoOnA.us gives the voter a chance to learn more about our argument against a specific measure and the website includes links to other LP related materials.
3. The arguments can sway enough voters to defeat a measure. Our argument helped defeat Measure F that was on the November 2002 ballot. See <http://www.smartvoter.org/2002/11/05/ca/scl/meas/F/> for details on this ballot measure and to see our argument.
4. We frequently have our LP candidates sign the arguments as coauthors. This gives them some name recognition.

Dennis Umphress ■

EDITOR'S NOTE:
*Had a Libertarian
 outreach experience?*
Converted someone?
Tell it to the editor!
*Email or phone News-
 letter Editor (see # at
 right)*
*US mail:
 651 Princeton Drive,*

- Officers:**
- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Chair | Ray Strong | (408) 268-1496 | hrstrong@hotmail.com |
| Vice Chair | Allen Hacker | (650) 964-4488 | allen@lawfulgov.org |
| Secretary | Joe Dehn | (650) 858-1842 | jwd3@dehnbased.org |
| Treasurer | Jon Hugdahl | (650) 965-3744 | jon@NoMoreTax.us |
| Membership | Randy Overbeck | (408) 732-3254 | charlesoverbeck@mac.com |
| Campaign | Dennis Umphress | (408) 269-7432 | dmumphress@hotmail.com |
| Publicity | Marv Rudin | (408) 736-5626 | rudin@lpty.org |
| Fundraising | Mike Laursen | (650) 969-2368 | LP@laursen.org |
| Activities | Zander Collier | (408) 369-1866 | zcollier@mailblocks.com |
| Newsletter | Marv Rudin | (408) 736-5626 | rudin@lpty.org |
| Local Organizing | | | |
| Outreach Events | Al Newman | (408) 263-4150 | al.notax.newman@juno.com |
| State ExCom Rep | Mark Hinkle | (408) 778-2444 | mark@garlic.com |
| Alt ExCom Rep | Joe Dehn | (650) 858-1842 | jwd3@dehnbased.org |
| 2nd Alt ExCom Rep | Mike Laursen | 650-969-2368 | LP@laursen.org |
-
- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Judicial | Catherine Brown | Kennita Watson | Elizabeth Brierly |
| Committee | | kennita@kennita.com | ElizabethB@netgate.net |
| | (408) 723-8711 | (408) 733-7773 | (408) 272-3191 |

This is the publication of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, a non-profit political organization

THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY



of Santa Clara County

P.O. Box 60171 Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0171

Please Print:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

The Libertarian Party is the party of principle. To assure and affirm that our party never strays from its principles, we request our members to sign the pledge below. (Non-signers cannot vote on party business).

I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature: _____

Membership Application

- \$25 Basic
- \$100 Sustaining
- \$250 Sponsor
- \$500 Patron
- \$1000 Life

Plus an additional contribution to the LPSCC:

- Monthly pledge
- One-time donation

Total:

Payment Method:

- Check payable to: Libertarian Party
- VISA or Master Card or
Discovery or E-Gold (circle one)

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Cardholder Name: _____

Signature: _____

New Renew